

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05

L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /111 W
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R 131538Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7215

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 00515

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, EEC, IR, GW

SUBJECT: EC/IRAN PREFERENCE PROPOSAL

REF: BONN 00163; BONN 19801; STATE 282186

1. THE ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL MINISTER HAS CALLED ON
ECONOMICS MINISTRY ENERGY DIRECTOR ENGELMANN TO
REITERATE OUR CONCERNS ABOUT THE PROPOSED EC/IRANIAN
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PREFERENTIAL AGREEMENT IN GENERAL AND PREFERENTIAL

TREATMENTS FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS FOR IRAN IN PARTICULAR. ENGELMANN SAID HE WAS OF COURSE WELL AWARE OF THE US CONCERNS. HE STATED THAT ALTHOUGH THE IMMEDIATE TIME PRESSURE ON THE PROPOSED 25 MILLION TON PETROLEUM REFINERY HAD EASED SOMEWHAT, THE FRG WAS STILL STRONGLY COMMITTED TO THE EVENTUAL COMPLETION OF THIS PROJECT AND THAT DUTY FREE TREATMENT FOR THE PRODUCTS PRODUCED BY THE REFINERY WAS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF THE COMMERCIAL VIABILITY OF THE VENTURE. HE FURTHER STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROJECT IN TERMS OF GERMAN FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY AS WELL AS PRODUCER/CONSUMER RELATIONS.

2. ENGELMANN SAID THAT THE IMMEDIATE FOCUS OF THE COMMUNITY'S ATTENTION WOULD BE ON IMPLEMENTING THE EARLIER COUNCIL DECISION TO ESTABLISH SOME SORT OF OVERALL ARRANGEMENT WITH IRAN. IN THIS REGARD HE SAID HE HAD BEEN PLEASED TO LEARN OF THE RECENT CHANGE IN THE FRENCH POSITION. WE RESPONDED BY STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF BOTH TRADE AND ENERGY POLICY CONSIDERATIONS AND NOTING THAT GERMANS COULD WELL EXPECT TO SEE THESE ISSUES RAISED AGAIN DURING PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONSUMER/PRODUCER DIALOGUE. CASH

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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